

Answers to Who's Who



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1. **Dorothy Irene Height** was an American civil rights and women's rights activist, She served as the president of the National Council of Negro Women for 40 years.
2. **Katherine Johnson** was an American Mathematician who calculated and analyzed the flight paths of many spacecrafts during her more than 3 decades with NASA. Her story was featured in the 2016 film, Hidden Figures.
3. **Holly J. Mitchell** is Chair of the LA County Board of Supervisors, representing over two million residents of Los Angeles County's 2nd District. She has passed over 90 bills during her tenure including the landmark anti-hair discrimination law The CROWN Act.
4. **Mae Jamison** is the first African American Woman in Space traveling into orbit aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour in 1992.
5. **Maxine Waters** is an American Politician serving as the U.S. Representative for California's 43rd congressional district since 1991. She is a fearless and outspoken advocate for women, children, people of color and the poor.
6. **Jesse Owens** was an American track and field athlete who won four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games. Owens specialized in the sprints and the long jump and is recognized as "perhaps the greatest and most famous athlete in track and field history."
7. **Shirley Chisholm** was an American politician, educator, and author and the first black woman elected to the U.S. Congress, the first black candidate to run for a major-party nomination for U.S. President, and the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's nomination.
8. **Alice Coachman Davis** was an American athlete. She specialized in high jump and in 1948 was the first black woman from any country to win an Olympic gold medal.
9. **James Morris Lawson Jr.** is an American Activist and University Professor, a leading theoretician and tactician of nonviolence with the Civil Rights Movement.
10. **Serena Williams** is an American Professional Tennis Player who won 23 Grand Slam Singles titles, the most by any player in the Open Era. Ranked #1 singles player in the world by the Women's Tennis Association on 8 separate occasions between 2002 and 2017.
11. **Dr. Charles Drew** was an American Surgeon and researcher who organized America's first large-scale blood bank and trained a generation of black physicians.
12. **Henrietta Lacks** was an American woman whose cancer cells are the source of the HeLa cell line, the first immortalized human cell line and one of the most important cell lines in medical research.
13. **Benjamin Oliver Davis Sr.** was a United States Army general. In 1940, he became the first African-American to rise to the rank of brigadier general.
14. **Thomas A. Dorsey** was an American musician, composer, and Christian evangelist influential in the development of early blues and 20th-century gospel music. He penned 3,000 songs including "Take My Hand, Precious Lord" and "Peace in the Valley."
15. **Quincy Jones Jr.** is an American record producer, musician, songwriter, composer, arranger, and film and television producer. His career spans 70 years in the entertainment industry.
16. **Ethel Waters** was an American singer and actress. She began her career in the 1920s singing blues but made history for her work in television becoming the first African American to star in her own TV show in 1939, The Ethel Waters Show.
17. **Gwendolyn Elizabeth Brooks** was an American poet, author, and teacher. She won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1950, for *Annie Allen*, making her the first African American to receive a Pulitzer Prize.
18. **Robert Sengstacke Abbott** was an American lawyer, newspaper publisher and editor who founded The Chicago Defender in 1905, which grew to have the highest circulation of any black-owned newspaper in the country.
19. **Marian Anderson** was an American opera contralto. She performed a wide range of music, from opera to spirituals and was considered one of the greatest opera singers in the world.
20. **Eldrick "Tiger" Woods** is an American professional golfer. He is tied for first in PGA Tour wins, ranks second in men's major championships, and holds numerous golf records.
21. **Solomon Carter Fuller** was the first Black psychiatrist in the United States. Researched degenerative brain disorders with Dr. Alois Alzheimer while in medical school and became an authority on Alzheimer's Disease research. Published the first comprehensive review of Alzheimer's cases in 1912.
22. Caryn Elaine Johnson, known professionally as **Whoopi Goldberg**, is an American actor, author, comedian, and television personality. A recipient of numerous accolades, she is one of 16 entertainers to win an Emmy Award, a Grammy Award, an Academy Award, and a Tony Award.
23. **Ruby Bridges-Hall** is an American civil rights activist. She was the first African-American child to desegregate the all-white William Frantz Elementary School in Louisiana during the New Orleans school desegregation crisis on November 14, 1960.
24. **Jane Bolin** was the first black woman to graduate from Yale Law School, the first to join the New York City Bar Association and the first to serve as a judge in the United States.
25. **Gordon Parks** was an American photographer, musician, writer and film director, who became prominent in U.S. photojournalism in the 1940s through 1970s—particularly in issues of civil rights, poverty and African-Americans, and in glamour photography.